

Tuesday—January 12th—7 PM

***** **First Presbyterian Church of Bellevue** *****

***** 1717 Bellevue Way NE, Bellevue, WA *****

**** Note the location change this year. ****

FREE DOOR PRIZE and raffle of Rhododendrons.

Chapter Officers:

President: Randy Jones

Treasurer: Bob George 425-391-2366

Directors: David Sherbrook (2010), Charlene Jones (2011), Warren Timmons III (2012)

Past President: Don Smart 425-333-6178

Newsletter Editor - Publisher: Don Smart

Assistant Editor: Carolyn Smart

Vice Pres: David Doherty

Secretary: **Vacant**—Charlene Jones—Acting

Websites: [http:// www.arscascade.org](http://www.arscascade.org)

[http:// www.rhododendron.org](http://www.rhododendron.org)

JANUARY MEETING—RHODODENDRONS AVAILABLE FOR YOUR GARDEN

This month we will be seeing a DVD produced by Stuart Imrie, the owner of Lake Tapps Rhododendron Nursery in Bonny Lake. Stuart Imrie has been operating Lake Tapps Rhododendron Garden & Nursery since the 1980's. His garden started out with one rhododendron, "Cynthia".

He now has thousands of plants, from cuttings to 25-gallon plants in his inventory. The hobby grew into a large nursery. He likes to say "Home Depot has just 3 varieties and I have the other 800." I met Stu quite a few years ago when Carolyn's dad took me up to his nursery. I like to call Stu the "used car salesman of rhododendrons". He used to sell (maybe still does) a plant called "Pink Unique", because he said "Who would buy a plant called Bruce Brechtbill"?

And from David, our VP, who set up this program:

I am really encouraging everyone to make it to the January Meeting. Stu Imrie has made one of the most professional presentations I have seen for rhododendrons. You will see numerous species, classic hybrids, and many crosses that have not been named.

If you enjoyed our Show and Tell last Spring you will also enjoy this as well. Some of the blooms you will see include Pink Prelude x Bruce Brechtbill, Smith hybrid, Orange Cameo, Mt Baker, Oregon, Cameo X Odee Wright, Anna X Tropicana, Bodega Pink, Dorothy Weinberg, Gwen Bell, Marie Starks x 1000 Butterfly's, Naselle X Polaris, Lady of

Spain, and Britt's Sport to name just a few.

You will see numerous Species and also some crosses that people have made. I encourage everyone in the chapter to attend this presentation and to invite other members from other chapters to feel free to come to this meeting as well. I especially encourage all of our newest members to attend the presentation to see these special rhododendrons and which ones you will want in your yard to get that "Wow Effect" to make people want to drive by your yard. The reason individuals belong to the Cascade chapter is to see amazing plants like these. You are not going to find a lot of these at the local hardware store. These are all available for sale to the public though.

I really hope to see you there and that you bring your paper and pen to write your "Gotta Have" rhododendrons down.

David Doherty and Don Smart

JOIN YOUR CASCADE FRIENDS FOR DINNER BEFORE THE MEETING

As we did last month, we will be getting together for dinner before the regular meeting. It was fun and there were 12 of us. Come join us—the more the merrier.

We will gather (flock?) at the Red Robin restaurant at Bellevue Square at 5PM on Tuesday, January 12th. There is parking at the SE corner of the square (Bellevue Way and NE 4th). It's just a short walk to the Red Robin.

If you can join us, please RSVP to Don or Carolyn Smart at 425-333-6178 or

*To become a member of the Cascade Chapter of the ARS, send dues to:
Bob George, 3030 E Beaver LK DR SE; SAMMAMISH, WA 98075 - 425-391-2366
\$40.00 Annual Membership fee or \$10.00 for Associate Membership if already a member of another ARS Chapter.*

donolyn@comcast.net by Monday, January 11th.
Thanks.
Editor

NOVEMBER PROGRAM—EMU VALLEY RHODODENDRON GARDEN

Thanks to Bill Heller for a beautiful tour of the Emu Valley Rhododendron garden in Tasmania, Australia. It's a long way from here, but would be beautiful to visit in person.
Editor

FROM PRESIDENT RANDY:

WELL HERE WE ARE INTO THE NEW YEAR 2010

2009 in review was certainly a mixed bag of weather with personal gains and losses. Puget Sound area had an awfully harsh winter followed by cold wet spring then only to be followed with an extremely hot dry summer, then real cold snap in the late autumn. I will be surprised if the results of 2009 won't be evident in the rhododendrons growth and blooms for the next two years.

Our chapter has had two very significant losses in the active membership with the passing of Peggy Crane and Bob McKinney. The impact of both of these individuals in the formation and success of the Cascade Chapter was beyond significant. Peggy reached out and welcomed Charlene and I as we were new members, her personal warmth is something that will be missed. Bob was a treasure trove of knowledge. He was adept at simplifying the art of propagation to levels that even the novice would walk away with a supreme feeling of confidence; enough to gather the materials to attempt Bob's plant magic. They both are sorely missed.

The success of the 2009 ARS convention in Everett is something that District 2 should take pride in. Everybody that I have had contact with that attended the conference has nothing but remarks of praise and remembrances of a fine time. The efforts of our members Don Smart, Jeanine Smith, Diane Thompson, Prudence Hollinger, and Don King who were part of the conference leadership was in large part the driving force of the conferences success. A belated thank you to all involved.

I am positive that 2010 will bring us great things. I am looking forward to seeing everyone at the first meeting of Two Thousand Ten; January 12th at 7:00 P.M. If you don't normally attend how about trying to start the New Year out with something enjoyable and attend the Cascade Chapter meeting.
Randy Jones, President

TREAT TIME!

We were treated to lots of brownies and other goodies in Dec. by Charlene Jones. January's hostess will be Coleen George. Please come and share the fun and the food.

Coleen George, The Sunshine Lady

THIS MONTHS DOOR PRIZE AND RAFFLE PLANTS

We have a wide variety this month with some that take very cold weather and some that bloom later in the year to extend your blooming season. Don't miss the chance to get some of these. See you at the meeting!!!!

BOW BELLS—3', -5 degrees, late April-Early May, light pink flowers. This is an old classic with a uniqueness to the plant and leaves. Has Williamsianum in it's parentage. Nice.

INDEPENDENCE DAY—5', -15 Degrees. Guess when it blooms? Great for extending the blooming season. Red flowers fade to lighter red. Can hold it's leaves 3 yrs.

JEAN MARIE de MONTAQUE—5', -5 Degrees, Classic red, seen in almost every yard around. Can take Sun and lots of neglect.

MOLLY ANN—3', -10F, Rounded plant with rose colored blooms in late April -Early May. Long time classic and somewhat easy to propagate.

OLIN O. DOBBS—4', -15 F, Waxy red/purple flowers with Mars bloodline. Blooms May and this is one to have in the yard. Very Nice!

PIKELAND—1', -5 F, Very small leaves, the blooms are just over 1". Light pink and deep pink edges. Tiny!

TEDDY BEAR—3', 0 Degrees F, compact with reddish indumentum underneath. Pink flowers with tight trusses by Briggs. Easy to propagate.

UNIQUE—Everyone knows this one. 4', -5 degrees, classic. I always had hard time to get this to root. Nice foliage and leaves. Light cream colored blooms.

YAKU FAIRY—This is fully mature when it is 1 to 2 inches tall. This has cream colored flowers that seem huge compared to the plant itself. Blooms in April.

YAKU PRINCE—3', -10 Degrees, Flowers to about 2.5 inches, blooms about late May. Pink fading to light pink, upright, mounded.

David Doherty, Vice President

THE ULTIMATE RHODODENDRON CONFERENCE
April 9-11, 2010 - University of BC Botanical Garden, Vancouver, BC

I have put both the Conference details and the Registration form on our web site at www.arscascade.org.
Editor

CASCADE CHAPTER—HELP WANTED

The chapter needs a new secretary. Due to family and schedule conflicts, our secretary, Dianna Davis, has had to resign. If you are interested in filling this job, please let Randy know. The job mainly consists of taking minutes at our monthly board meeting.

Editor

CAN YOU RAISE RHODODENDRONS IN A RETIREMENT APARTMENT?

The following article is from our newest member Tom Thomas who lives in an apartment. He is very dedicated. Note in pictures that each square has its own label and he has 4 seedling per sq inch section in the flat. He does it early to cause the least disturbance to the roots. The larger the transplant and more roots and thus the greater disturbance. These transplants are really *really* small. He has this down to a science and I hope you enjoy his article. He is inspirational! Also when he opened up his "green box", you could feel the heat escaping on your face. Lots of light and heat. His last picture is the door which the pipe fits inside while the plastic fits outside which makes a good seal to hold moisture and heat. He also took some cuttings from the Bill Miller presentation and is using Bob George's method of propagation described at the October meeting.

David Doherty, VP

GREEN BOX FOR RHODO SEEDLINGS AND CUTTINGS

In my apartment my gardening space was limited to windowsills. I sterilize my growing medium (peat) with a very dilute solution of Potassium Permanganate*, and sowed seed from the ARS Seed Exchange on 9-8-09. Window sills proved to be a rather cool location for germination, but by 11-5-09, it was time for the first transplant, but to WHERE?

WHERE turned out to be a table top in my study. For protection I covered the table with a plywood sheet cut to size by the lumber company, a size I could get into my car trunk. For waterproofing, I covered the plywood with plastic. On this I built my green box using 1/2"



PVC pipe for the frame, and covered it with plastic sheeting.

The hardware store stocks pipe in 5' lengths, a length I



can carry in my car trunk, and further was of an optimum length for my construction with minimum waste. A 32" high box allows 24' from light bulb to plant, plus allowance for the dimensions of the light fixture and the plant containers. I used a shop light with ordinary 35 W light bulbs. (A different fixture might have been better, one to allow use of Garden and Aquarium bulbs). For this construction almost no tools were required. The parts were held together by glue, duct tape and wire. The pipe is cut to length with shears designed for the purpose (\$10).



The wire provides increased tensile rigidity to the structure (optional). (There is one drawback to this design--at times one must be very quick in fitting a number of glue joints together more or less simultaneously before the glue stiffens on any joint. Correction of error with PVC pipe is relatively easy--cut out the offending joint where the glue has hardened in the wrong position and use couplings to splice in the correct configuration.

Dimensions: LWH= 60'x34'x32". Area=14 sq. ft.

Volume=38 cu. ft. Cost: \$125

Tom Thomas

American Rhododendron Society
Cascade Chapter
Donald Smart
1618 290th Ave NE
Carnation, WA 98014

FIRST CLASS

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



Happy New Year

***** **DOLLAR TABLE** *****

**You must have something you can
share with your fellow members.**

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President: Randy Jones
Vice-President: David Doherty
Treasurer: Bob George 425-391-2366
Secretary: **Vacant**
Directors: Charlene Jones, David Sherbrook, Warren Timmons III,
Past President: Don Smart
Newsletter Editor - Publisher: Don Smart 425-333-6178 or
donolyn@comcast.net
Able Assistant: Carolyn Smart

BOARD MEETINGS:

Board Meetings are usually held on the **Monday following our Chapter Meeting** at Bob and Coleen George's house. Any member is welcome at the Board Meeting. If you have an idea or agenda item that you believe the Board should consider, please call Randy Jones. Or just come and see what goes on behind the scenes.

CASCADE CHAPTER 2009—2010 CALENDAR

YEAR MONTH - DAY EVENT

2010	January 12	Cascade Meeting—Stuart Imrie—Lake Tapps Nursery
2010	February 9	Cascade Meeting—Dennis Bottemiller—RSBG—Plant Hunters Nirvana
2010	March 9	Cascade Meeting—TBA
2010	April 9-11	The Ultimate Rhododendron Conference, UBC Botanical Garden, Vancouver
2010	May 8-9	Cascade Chapter Rhododendron Show and Sale—Kenmore Rhody Park
2010	May 14-17	ARS Annual Convention, Long Island, NY
2010	October 8-10	ARS Western Regional Conference, Florence, OR

BRING A GUEST AND GET A FREE PLANT

Your board in an effort to attract more people to our meeting has decided that if a member brings a guest, the member gets a free rhododendron. These will be special plants that are not part of the door prize or raffle plants. Of course, if your guest joins, they get a free plant, too. So BRING 'EM ON!

COMING NEXT MONTH

Dennis Bottemiller, the nursery manager for the Rhododendron Species Botanical Garden will updates us with some of his plants in a program "Plant Hunter's Nirvana". There's some neat plants out there waiting for you.